

ADMINISTRATIVE

INTERNAL USE ONLY

21 September 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Senator Edward Kennedy's Request for Use of
West Parking Lot

1. On instructions from Colonel White I called Senator Kennedy's office this morning in response to his attempt to reach the Director over the weekend, presumably regarding use of our West Parking lot (see Mr. Coffey's memo of 18 September). In the Senator's absence I talked to Miss Angelique Voutselas, the Senator's Personal Secretary, explaining that I was calling in behalf of the Director who is out of town. Miss Voutselas confirmed the Senator had called the Director about use of the West Parking lot, explaining that Mrs. Robert Kennedy expected some 2000 attendants at a gathering at her Hickory Hill home from 6:00 to 8:30 p. m. on Tuesday, 29 September and that it was "imperative" that suitable parking space be found. I suggested the parking area controlled by the Bureau of Public Roads next to the recreational grounds facing on Route 193. Miss Voutselas said this was grass covered land and they were interested in the paved Agency parking area. I mentioned the security problems and said I thought there might be other suitable areas in the neighborhood which I would look into and be back in touch with her.

2. After looking over the areas with Mr. Coffey and consulting with Colonel White, I called Miss Voutselas back to say unfortunately use of our paved parking area would raise some very serious complications, since it was all within our secure compound surrounded by fences and patrolled by guards. I said our security people could see no way this could be opened up to the general public. I also noted that the Agency operates around the clock and our own employees occupy our parking area at all hours. I suggested that the Langley High School parking area was not only paved but was nearer Hickory Hill than the BPR area.

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3. Miss Voutselas said she understood this was not available but I commented that we had checked and understood there were no athletic events going on that evening at the High School. Miss Voutselas said she would check into this to make sure. She asked who controlled the BPR area and I said we had no authority over this and she should get in touch with the Federal Highway Administration. In closing I said we were anxious to be helpful but I hoped she could appreciate our problems. She said she understood this and thanked me for looking into it.

4. About noon today Mr. George Dalton, of Senator Kennedy's staff, called me from Boston to confirm the Senator's interest in what Dalton called the "West Parking lot." I pointed out to him that we would have serious problems in giving outsiders access to parking areas within the Agency compound. Dalton said that this was surprising since he knew exceptions had been made in the case of the Kent State gathering. He said he knew the property well because he drove by it regularly and could see it from the road. I said I assumed he was talking of the area outside the compound adjacent to the baseball diamond. He said he had discussed the matter with Mr. Paul Wiles of BPR who had identified the area in question as the West lot. I said I thought we were talking about the same thing--the grassy field adjacent to the baseball diamond. Dalton said this was it. I said in that case the problem was ultimately up to the BPR and we would get in touch with them to see if they had any objection. Dalton said he would appreciate this, particularly because they were concerned about the safety problem of a number of people parking so near the highway. He asked me to call Miss Voutselas and give her the results after I had been in touch with BPR.

5. Shortly thereafter, after Mr. Coffey had taken the problem up with BPR on the above basis, I called Miss Voutselas and told her that we were notifying BPR in writing that we had no objection to the use of the property in question, and that they should seek a use permit from Mr. Wiles of BPR. I made clear it was the property along Route 193 adjacent to the baseball diamond.

STATINTL

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